

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the paragraphs starting on page 7, line 15; page 8, lines 4 and 22; page 9, line 21; page 10, lines 6 and 24; and page 11, lines 6 and 17, as shown on the following amended paragraphs:

Page 7, line 15:

Referring now to the figures of the drawing in detail and first, particularly, to Fig. 1 thereof, there is shown a highly diagrammatized illustration of a section through a refrigerator housing 100, in which the present invention can be used. The housing contains an outer housing box 102, which is composed of an inner container 1 and outer walls 2 and in which an intermediate space 3 between the inner container 1 and outer walls 2 is filled with insulating foam 103. A shelf 4 divides an interior space of the housing box into an upper subspace 5, for example a freezer compartment, and a lower subspace 6, for example a normal cooling compartment. Each of the subspaces 5, 6 is assigned a respective door 7 and 8 which are adjacent to a gap 9 level with the shelf 4.

Page 8, line 4:

The shelf 4 has an essentially L-shaped cross section with a horizontal main section 10, which extends from the doors 7, 8 as far as a rear wall 104 of the inner container 1, and a section 11 that is angled downward on a front edge 105 of the main section 10. The shape of the shelf 4 ensures, first, that level with the gap 9 there is a sufficiently thick insulating layer to protect against heat penetrating into the gap from the outside; second, the thickness of the main section 10 can remain limited over most of the main section to a small value required for an effective heat insulation between the subspaces 5, 6 and for a sufficient mechanical strength of the shelf 4 in order not to impair the available storage volume in the inner container 1 beyond the necessary extent.

Page 8, line 22:

Two horizontal grooves 13 are formed on a front side 14 of the core 12, which side 14 faces the observer. They are provided in order to accommodate a non-illustrated hot gas pipe through which warm refrigerant is conducted after it has passed through the condenser of a refrigerating machine

(not illustrated) and before it passes through a heat exchanger (not illustrated). This keeps the front side 14 sufficiently warm such that a formation of condensation water in the gap 9 is avoided. The horizontal grooves 13 are connected in a left edge region 106 of the front side 14 by a vertical groove 107 and merge on a right edge region 108 into grooves 109 extending along a right side flank 15, with the result that the hot gas pipe can be laid continuously through these grooves.

Page 9, line 21:

A respective guide groove 16 extends in the horizontal direction on both side flanks 15 of the core 12. The guide groove 16 is provided in order to accommodate a complementary rib 28 (shown in Fig. 4), that is formed on the inner container 1, so that the shelf 4 can be fitted by simple pushing the core 12 onto the ribs 28. Of course, a horizontal rib (not illustrated) could also be provided with the same effect on a side flank of the core, the rib engaging in a complementarily shaped groove (not illustrated) in a side wall of the inner container 1.

Page 10, line 6:

An upper side 17 of the core 12 is protected against damage and contamination by an upper covering panel 18, for example of solid polystyrene. The covering panel 18 engages by its downwardly bent, front edge 19 in the upper of the two grooves 13; an analogous groove engagement with a groove on one of the side flanks 15 of the core or on the rear side thereof (not illustrated) may also be provided in order to clamp the upper covering panel 18 to the core 12. As an alternative, the lower side of the upper covering panel could also be provided with spikes (not illustrated) - possibly equipped with barbs (not illustrated) - which can be driven into the core 12 in order to install the covering panel thereon.

Page 10, line 24:

A lower covering panel 20 which covers a lower side of the core 12 is equipped on its front edge 21 in an analogous manner to the covering panel 18 with a retaining lug for engagement in the lower of the grooves 13. It may also be clamped in the same manner as the upper covering panel 18 to the core 12 without an adhesive bond by engagement of a further retaining lug (not illustrated) in a lateral or

rear groove of the core; a fastening with the aid of spikes (not illustrated) is also suitable.

Page 11, line 6:

As can be seen more clearly in the side view of the core 12 of Fig. 3, two narrow slots 22, which can be formed in a simple manner by cutting into the material of the core, are situated on the front side 14 of the core 12 parallel to the grooves 13. These slots 22 are provided in order to receive tongues 23 of upper and lower cross pieces 24 (shown in Fig. 2) which can be formed as extruded profiles of plastic or metal and, first, can serve to stiffen the shelf 4 and, second, serve as a support for a non-illustrated metallic screen which completely covers the front side 14 of the core 12.

Page 11, line 17:

Fig. 2 furthermore shows a downwardly directed rib 25 on the lower covering panel 20, the rib 25 extending in an approximately C-shaped manner around a surface 26 of the lower covering panel 20, which surface 26 is adjacent to the rear wall 104 of the inner container 1 in the fitted

state of the shelf 4. As the section view of Fig. 4 shows, the surface 26 is provided in order to accommodate an electric fan 27 below it in the lower subspace 6. The rib 25 prevents drops of moisture that might be formed, for example, by condensation on the lower covering panel 20 outside the surface 26 surrounded by the rib 25, from reaching the fan 27. A corresponding protection of the fan 27 against condensate forming on the surface 26 can be achieved if the surface 26 is sloped toward the rib 25 (not illustrated).